



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/791,335

03/01/2004

Jayasimha Nuggehalli

49986-0535

2410

29989

7590

12/21/2010

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER, LLP
2055 GATEWAY PLACE
SUITE 550
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, LENNIN R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/21/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/791,335	Applicant(s) NUGGEHALI ET AL.	
	Examiner LENNIN RODRIGUEZ	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-24 and 28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-24 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/30/2010</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-4, 9-17, 20-22, 24 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma (US 2001/0017700) in view of Parry (US 2003/0065766), Hilbert et al. (US 2006/0256786) and Nagasaka et al. (US 6,725,300).

(1) regarding claim 1:

Homma '700 discloses a multifunction peripheral (100 in Fig. 1) configured to perform the steps of:

obtaining multifunction peripheral information, wherein the obtaining multifunction peripheral information includes reading a meter of the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0013], where the peripheral device keeps record of all the activity being performed by itself);

generating a device-related report based at least in part on the multifunction peripheral information (paragraph [0013], lines 8-12 where the information collected is being transmitted to an information processing device (interpreted as a report)); and

sending said device-related report to a recipient device (paragraph [0013], lines 8-12 where the information collected is being transmitted to an information processing device (interpreted as a report)).

Homma '700 discloses all the subject matter as described above except gathering information on said first device-related information including meter-reading information received from the network device over the network, combined with the multifunction peripheral information obtained from the multifunction peripheral;

However, Hilbert '786 teaches gathering information on said first device-related information including meter-reading information received from the network device over the network, combined with the multifunction peripheral information obtained from the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0007], where information from multiple devices is gather by a monitoring service (interpreted as a report), the information including information about other devices connected to a network as well as its own information);

Having a system of Homma '700 and then given the well-established teaching of Hilbert '786 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral system of Homma '700 to include gathering information on said first device-related information including meter-reading information received from the network device over the network, combined with the multifunction peripheral information obtained from the multifunction peripheral as taught by Hilbert '786 because it would allow the multifunction device to detect other devices on the network and in case the MFP itself could not perform a job,

it would know what are the capabilities of other devices in order to redirect or indicate the user where to redirect the job.

Homma '700 and Hilbert '786 disclose all the subject matter as described above except receiving the first device-related information from the network device over the network;

generating a device-related report based at least in part on said first device-related information;

wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral.

However, Parry '766 teaches receiving device-related information from the network device over the network (paragraph [0019], lines 10-21, where the management facility receives information through a network 200 of the usage information of other devices);

generating a device-related report based at least in part on said first device-related information (paragraph [0034], where the information gathered by the management facility is analyzed and then it can be display in several forms including text, images and/or graphics, this can be interpreted as reporting the information to the user);

wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral (Fig. 2, user of a workstation 208).

Having a system of Homma '700 and Hilbert '786 and then given the well-established teaching of Parry '766 reference, it would have been obvious to one having

Art Unit: 2625

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral system of Homma '700 and Hilbert '786 to include requesting first device-related information from a network device over a network, wherein the first device-related information includes meter-reading information; receiving the first device-related information from the network device over the network; wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral as taught by Parry '766 because it would allow the multifunction device to detect other devices on the network and in case the MFP itself could not perform a job, it would know what are the capabilities of other devices in order to redirect or indicate the user where to redirect the job.

Homma '700, Hilbert '786 and Parry '766 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a hypertext transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via hypertext transfer protocol using the hypertext transfer protocol module.

However, Nagasaka '300 teaches wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a hypertext transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via hypertext transfer protocol using the hypertext transfer protocol module (column 32, lines 64-67 and column 33, lines 1-10, where http is being used for communications between

Art Unit: 2625

devices, as stated in column 34, lines 15-33 and as shown in Figs. 3A through 3C the device (printer) and the computer can be integrated in on device, therefore containing the HTTP module for communication).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a hypertext transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via hypertext transfer protocol using the hypertext transfer protocol module as taught by Nagasaka '300 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786 and Parry '766. With this the system can use a standard way of communication through internet, thus facilitating the communication with remote devices.

(2) regarding claim 2:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of generating the device-related report based at least in part on the recipient device (paragraph [0074] – [0076], where certain host computer makes the request for information and that information is format in a way that the host computer would understand the information being received).

(3) regarding claim 3:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a faxing module (4 in Fig. 1) and the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending the device-related report by sending the device-related

report Via fax using the faxing module (paragraph [0036], where the core part controls the transmission of information, among others, of the facsimile portion).

(4) regarding claim 4:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a network connection (public network in Fig. 1) and the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending the device-related report by sending the device-related report to an electronic faxing service over the network connection (paragraph [0036], where the core part controls the transmission of information, among others, of the facsimile portion through a network).

(5) regarding claim 9:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises an encryption module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of encrypting the device-related report (paragraph [0076], where by the user having to enter a user ID and the system having to verify this ID with its records, the system is performing an encryption process).

(6) regarding claim 10:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises an identification module (Fig. 6) and wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the steps of retrieving an identifier for the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0073], where an user ID is used to associated a user with the use of a device in this case the multifunction device) and augmenting the device-related

report with the identifier for the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0076], lines 1-4, where the user ID is used to access the report information).

(7) regarding claim 12:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of requesting first device-related information using simple network management protocol (paragraph [0034], lines 15-18, where the device is capable of communicating through a network using SNMP).

(8) regarding claim 13:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of receiving first device-related information from the network device using the simple network management protocol (paragraph [0034], lines 15-18, where the device is capable of communicating through a network using SNMP).

(9) regarding claim 14:

Homma '700 discloses all the subject matter as described above except wherein the device-related information comprises one or more of device information, device status, and consumables information.

However, Parry '766 teaches wherein the device-related information comprises one or more of device information, device status, and consumables information (paragraph [0018], usage information).

Having a system of Homma '700 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Parry '766 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral of

Art Unit: 2625

Homma '700 to include wherein the device-related information comprises one or more of device information, device status, and consumables information as taught by Parry '766 because with this the system has an organized way to retrieve information from different devices, thus preventing errors or discrepancies of information for the report.

(10) regarding claim 15:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of accepting user configuration input (paragraph [0016], where the user ID has to be accepted by the device in order to properly communicate information), and wherein the user configuration input relates to one or more aspects of the collection of first device-related information from the network device by the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0016], and Fig. 7 where the user has the options to select his/her own configuration).

(11) regarding claim 16:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of accepting user configuration input via a remote interface (paragraph [0016], where the user ID has to be accepted by the device in order to properly communicate information and Fig. 1, where the communication devices can be located remotely connected by a network), and wherein the user configuration input relates to one or more aspects of the collection of the first device-related information from the network device by the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0016], and Fig. 7 where the user has the options to select his/her own configuration).

(12) regarding claim 11 and 17:

Homma '700 discloses all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of requesting first device-related information from the network device at intervals defined by the user configuration input.

However, Parry '766 teaches wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of requesting first device-related information from the network device at intervals defined by the user configuration input (paragraph [0031], where the polling of information is performed periodically).

Having a system of Homma '700 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Parry '766 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral of Homma '700 to include wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of requesting first device-related information from the network device at intervals defined by the user configuration input as taught by Parry '766 because with this the system has an organized way to retrieve information from different devices, thus preventing errors or discrepancies of information for the report.

(13) regarding claim 20:

Homma '700 discloses all the subject matter as described above except wherein the network device is a second multifunction peripheral.

However, Parry '766 teaches wherein the network device is a second multifunction peripheral (202 in Fig. 2, e.g. imaging device 1).

Having a system of Homma '700 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Parry '766 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral of Homma '700 to include wherein the network device is a second multifunction peripheral as taught by Parry '766 because with this the system has an organized way to retrieve information from different devices, thus preventing errors or discrepancies of information for the report.

(14) regarding claim 21:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the recipient device is one of the group consisting of a fax machine, a computer (11 and 12, in Fig. 1), and dedicated hardware executing one of the group consisting of an email client, an http server, and https server, and an ftp server.

(15) regarding claims 22:

Homma '700 discloses a multifunction peripheral (100 in Fig. 1).

Homma '700 discloses all the subject matter as described above except requesting second device-related information from a network device over a network, wherein the network device is distinct from the second network device;

receiving second device-related information from the second network device over the network;

generating the device-related report based on said first device-related information and said second device related information; and

sending said device-related report to a recipient device.

However, Parry '766 teaches requesting second device-related information from a network device over a network (paragraph [0018], where the management facility (paragraph [0017], lines 10-12, where the management facility can be an imaging device) collects usage information from other imaging devices across network 200), wherein the network device is distinct from the second network device (202 in Fig. 2, imaging device 2);

receiving second device-related information from the second network device over the network (paragraph [0019], lines 10-21, where the management facility receives information through a network 200 of the usage information of other devices);

generating the device-related report based on said first device-related information and said second device related information (paragraph [0034], where the information gathered by the management facility is analyzed and then it can be display in several forms including text, images and/or graphics, this can be interpreted as reporting the information to the user); and

sending said device-related report to a recipient device (paragraph [0034], where the information gathered by the management facility is analyzed and then it can be display at user of a workstation 208 (Fig. 2)).

Having a system of Homma '700 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Motoyama '247 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral system of Homma '700 to include requesting second device-related information from a network device over a network, wherein the network device is distinct

Art Unit: 2625

from the second network device; receiving second device-related information from the second network device over the network; generating the device-related report based on said first device-related information and said second device related information; and sending said device-related report to a recipient device as taught by Motoyama '247 because it would allow the multifunction device to detect other devices on the network and in case the MFP itself could not perform a job, it would know what are the capabilities of other devices in order to redirect or indicate the user where to redirect the job.

(16) regarding claim 24:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to receive an acknowledgement over the network from the network device (paragraph [0076], lines 5-13, where the system receives a network confirmation if there is or there is not device information stored in memory).

(17) regarding claim 28:

Homma '700 further discloses a multifunction peripheral (100 in Fig. 1) configured to perform the steps of:

reading a meter of the multifunction peripheral to obtain meter information (paragraph [0013], where the peripheral device keeps record of all the activity being performed by itself);

generating a device-related report based on device related information from the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0013], lines 8-12 where the information collected is being transmitted to an information processing device (interpreted as a report)); and

sending said device-related report to a recipient device (paragraph [0013], lines 8-12 where the information collected is being transmitted to an information processing device (interpreted as a report)),

Homma '700 discloses all the subject matter as described above except requesting device-related information from a network device over a network;

receiving device-related information from the network device over the network;

gathering information on received device-related information received from the network device over the network, combined with device-related information obtained from reading the meter of the multifunction peripheral;

wherein the device-related information includes the meter information,

wherein the device-related report includes an identification of the multifunction peripheral, and

wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral.

However, Hilbert '786 teaches gathering information on received device-related information received from the network device over the network, combined with device-related information obtained from reading the meter of the multifunction peripheral (paragraph [0007], where information from multiple devices is gathered by a monitoring service (interpreted as a report), the information including information about other devices connected to a network as well as its own information);

Having a system of Homma '700 and then given the well-established teaching of Hilbert '786 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art

Art Unit: 2625

at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral system of Homma '700 to include gathering information on received device-related information received from the network device over the network, combined with device-related information obtained from reading the meter of the multifunction peripheral as taught by Hilbert '786 because it would allow the multifunction device to detect other devices on the network and in case the MFP itself could not perform a job, it would know what are the capabilities of other devices in order to redirect or indicate the user where to redirect the job.

Homma '700 and Hilbert '786 disclose all the subject matter as described above except requesting device-related information from a network device over a network;

receiving device-related information from the network device over the network;

wherein the device-related information includes the meter information,

wherein the device-related report includes an identification of the multifunction peripheral, and

wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral.

However, Parry '766 teaches requesting device-related information from a network device over a network (paragraph [0018], where the management facility (paragraph [0017], lines 10-12, where the management facility can be an imaging device) collects usage information from other imaging devices across network 200);

receiving device-related information from the network device over the network (paragraph [0019], lines 10-21, where the management facility receives information through a network 200 of the usage information of other devices)

wherein the device-related information includes the meter information (paragraph [0018], where the usage information has been interpreted as meter-reading information),

wherein the device-related report includes an identification of the multifunction peripheral ("Imaging device 4" in Fig. 4), and

wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral (Fig. 2, user of a workstation 208).

Having a system of Homma '700 and Hilbert '786 reference and then given the well-established teaching of Parry '766 reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the multifunction peripheral system of Homma '700 and Hilbert '786 to include requesting device-related information from a network device over a network; receiving device-related information from the network device over the network; wherein the device-related report includes an identification of the multifunction peripheral, and wherein the recipient device is separate from both the network device and the multifunction peripheral as taught by Parry '766 because it would allow the multifunction device to detect other devices on the network and in case the MFP itself could not perform a job, it would know what are the capabilities of other devices in order to redirect or indicate the user where to redirect the job.

Homma '700, Hilbert '786 and Parry '766 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device is performed by a hypertext transfer protocol module in the multifunction peripheral, wherein the hypertext transfer protocol uses a hypertext transfer protocol.

However, Nagasaka '300 teaches wherein the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device is performed by a hypertext transfer protocol module in the multifunction peripheral, wherein the hypertext transfer protocol uses a hypertext transfer protocol (column 32, lines 64-67 and column 33, lines 1-10, where http is being used for communications between devices, as stated in column 34, lines 15-33 and as shown in Figs. 3A through 3C the device (printer) and the computer can be integrated in on device, therefore containing the HTTP module for communication).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device is performed by a hypertext transfer protocol module in the multifunction peripheral, wherein the hypertext transfer protocol uses a hypertext transfer protocol as taught by Nagasaka '300 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786 and Parry '766. With this the system can use a standard way of communication through internet, thus facilitating the communication with remote devices.

4. Claims 5 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma (US 2001/0017700), Hilbert et al. (US 2006/0256786), Parry (US

2003/0065766) and Nagasaka et al. (US 6,725,300) as applied to claims above, and further in view of Iwase et al. (US 2002/0046247).

(1) regarding claim 5:

Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multi function peripheral further comprises an email module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending, said device-related report to the recipient device via email using the email module.

However, Iwase '247 teaches wherein the multi function peripheral further comprises an email module (paragraph [0012], where the server apparatus contains the e-mail functionality) and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending, said device-related report to the recipient device via email using the email module (paragraph [0012], where information is being send through the network by e-mail).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the multi function peripheral further comprises an email module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending, said device-related report to the recipient device via email using the email module as taught by Iwase '247 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300. With this the system performance is enhanced by allowing communication among

devices that may not be in the same place or even in the same country and still getting all the information contained in the report.

(2) regarding claim 23:

Homma '700 further discloses wherein the multifunction peripheral (100 in Fig. 1) is configured to perform the step of:

accessing a set of multifunction peripheral information from the multifunction peripheral (column 21, lines 44-51);

generating the device-related report based on said device-related information and said set of device-related information (paragraph [0013], lines 8-12 where the information collected is being transmitted to an information processing device (interpreted as a report)); and

sending said device-related report to the recipient device (paragraph [0013], lines 8-12 where the information collected is being transmitted to an information processing device (interpreted as a report)).

Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300 disclose all the subject matter as described above except that the set of device-related information and the device-related report are from a second device.

However, Iwase '247 teaches that the set of device-related information and the device-related report are from a second device (4 in Fig. 1, where the system have two or more multifunction devices connected to the same network).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the set of device-related information and the device-

Art Unit: 2625

related report are from a second device as taught by Iwase '247 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300. With this, it becomes evident that in a system (as taught by Homma '700) that has a network where multiple devices can be connected to, it becomes clear that among those devices another multifunction device can be connected as shown by Iwase '247.

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma (US 2001/0017700), Hilbert et al. (US 2006/0256786), Parry (US 2003/0065766) and Nagasaka et al. (US 6,725,300) as applied to claims above, and further in view of Watkins (US 6,347,305).

(1) regarding claim 7:

Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a secure hypertext transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via secure hypertext transfer protocol using the secure hypertext transfer protocol module.

However, Watkins '305 teaches wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a secure hypertext transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via secure hypertext transfer protocol using the secure hypertext transfer protocol module (column 7, lines 5-17, where the email is connected to a secure page (https)).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a secure hypertext transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via secure hypertext transfer protocol using the secure hypertext transfer protocol module as taught by Watkins '305 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300. With this the system can use a standard way of communication through internet, thus facilitating the communication with remote devices in a secure way.

6. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma (US 2001/0017700), Hilbert et al. (US 2006/0256786), Parry (US 2003/0065766) and Nagasaka et al. (US 6,725,300) as applied to claims above, and further in view of Takano (US 2004/0184108).

Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a file transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via file transfer protocol using the file transfer protocol module.

However, Takano '108 teaches wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a file transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient

Art Unit: 2625

device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via file transfer protocol using the file transfer protocol module (paragraph [0052], where by way of the ftp the system can communicate device-related information).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a file transfer protocol module and wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device by sending said device-related report to the recipient device via file transfer protocol using the file transfer protocol module as taught by Takano '108 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300. With this the system can use a standard way of communication through ftp, thus facilitating the data transfer with remote devices.

7. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma (US 2001/0017700), Hilbert et al. (US 2006/0256786), Parry (US 2003/0065766) and Nagasaka et al. (US 6,725,300) as applied to claims above, and further in view of Carter (WO 01/40907).

Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of generating the device-related report based in part on the user configuration input, and wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device at an interval defined by the user configuration input.

However, Carter '907 teaches wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of generating the device-related report based in part on the user configuration input, and wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device at an interval defined by the user configuration input (page 12, lines 32-33 and page 13, lines 1-4, where the operator indicates when a particular information should be send to a particular party).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the multifunction peripheral is configured to perform the step of generating the device-related report based in part on the user configuration input, and wherein the multifunction peripheral is further configured to perform the step of sending said device-related report to the recipient device at an interval defined by the user configuration input as taught by Carter '907 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300. With this the system has an organized way to present information about different devices, thus preventing errors or discrepancies of information for the report.

8. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homma (US 2001/0017700), Parry (US 2003/0065766) and Nagasaka et al. (US 6,725,300) as applied to claims above, and further in view of Swart (US 6,347,306).

Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300 disclose all the subject matter as described above except wherein the multifunction peripheral further

comprises a means for executing instructions of a java application and the steps are performed by instructions of a particular java application.

However, Swart '306 teaches wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a means for executing instructions of a java application and the steps are performed by instructions of a particular java application (Fig. 3 and column 7, lines 48-63).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made wherein the multifunction peripheral further comprises a means for executing instructions of a java application and the steps are performed by instructions of a particular java application as taught by Swart '306 in the system of Homma '700, Hilbert '786, Parry '766 and Nagasaka '300. With this the system can use a standard way of communication through internet, thus facilitating the communication with remote devices.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

Art Unit: 2625

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LENNIN RODRIGUEZ whose telephone number is (571)270-1678. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thur 7:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman can be reached on 571-272-7653. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/LENNIN RODRIGUEZ/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Mark K Zimmerman/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625